

Muhammad Waqas Rana* Dr Muhammad Jawed Aslam** Khalid Jamil***

Analysis of Media Perspective on the Impact of COVID-19 on Economy (Chinese & Global) and Belt and Road Initiative: CPEC under the lens

Abstract:

The outbreak of the Coronavirus in the Chinese city of Wuhan has wreaked havoc across the world. Worldwide, the number of people infected with the virus has reached more than 1,880,000, while more than 118,000 have killed till 14th April 2020. In the early January this year, the news of an outbreak in China spread like a fire across the world, and the aggressive manner in which the western media introduced the outbreak created fear and uncertainty around the globe. To analyze the impact level of the coverage on COVID-19 by global media comparing with Chinese news content from January 1st to 20th March 2020, we have reviewed web-based newspapers as a tool of data collection for content analysis of research.

The results suggest that the news framing of COVID-19 in global media psychologically affected the people, causing panic and fear, which has adversely affected the business, economy, and routine life worldwide. The results reveal that 27.6% of the Chinese news coverage has a high impact on readers, comparing with global media, where harmful content has recorded 93.75%. The results also suggest that sensational news made the conditions caused by the Corona virus more serious. The sensation created by the world media at the beginning of the outbreak left a significant impact on the viewers that caused panic, uncertainty, and apprehension.

Keywords: Media coverage on Covid-19, Global & Chinese economy, Belt and Road Initiative, China-Pakistani Economic Corridor

1. Introduction

Coronaviruses (COVID-19) are a big family of zoonotic viruses. Preliminary investigations indicate that the COVID-19 is a bat virus that is transmitted to humans through an animal. People affected by the illness may experience shortness of breath, dry cough, and severe fever. Similar to Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV) in 2003, which transmitted from camels to humans, COVID-19 is also expected to affect the public at large. This novel virus (COVID-19), originated from Wuhan, China, has not been previously reported in humans. As of 20th March 2020, COVID-19 has infected more than 258,963 individuals worldwide. This deadly epidemic has taken 11,129 lives worldwide up-till 20th March 2020. On a positive note, 91,573 individuals have recovered from COVID-19 (Staff, 2020)[289]. But the situation is alarming as several cases are increasing on a daily basis; in fact, genetic analysis suggests coronavirus infections are doubling every six days, spreading to hundreds (BOYLE, 2020)[286].

Wuhan, the capital of China's Hubei province, with a population of 11.8 million, is one of the busiest business cities in the world. The city has offices of more than 500 global companies, including Microsoft, German information technology companies, carmakers, and many other major financial institutions. The city has contributed significantly to China's overall national growth rate. However, these commercial activities have been severely affected by the outbreak of the coroner virus. Companies have shut down businesses, and international staff has evacuated (Ayttey et al., 2020)[286].

* Muhammad Waqas Rana: School of Economics and Management, North China Electric Power University, Changping District, Beijing, 102206, China, Department of Mass Communication Management, The Superior University, Lahore. mwaqas_001@hotmail.com Tel: +8618519090741

** Dr Muhammad Jawed Aslam: HOD Department of Mass Communication Management, The Superior University, Lahore. mianjawed@hotmail.com Tel: [+923004204384](tel:+923004204384)

*** Khalid Jamil: School of Economics and Management, North China Electric Power University, Changping District, Beijing, 102206, China khalidjamil29@yahoo.com Tel: +8613264236174

Media reports say the Coronavirus and its possible consequences could leave the world facing the worst economic and humanitarian crisis. Therefore, the purpose of this research is to make the content analysis of Chinese & global media reporting on the COVID-19 pandemic and its psychological effects on readers followed by economic plight. The Belt & Road Initiative (BRI) and China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) under the lens. For this purpose, research questions are as follows; (1) to what extent the Chinese & global media coverage on the Coronavirus affecting people? (2) What kind of news framing in the Chinese & global newspaper reports on the Coronavirus and what are the psychological & economic-related effects of these reports? The remaining of the paper is designed as follows: First, we present research methodology and data sources that explain research theory and the reason for using the method. Then, section 3 presents the findings of the objectives and research questions by reviewing the data of the topic; we have analyzed the impact level of media reporting in terms of general and economic-related news framing of the COVID-19 and level of impacts in the Chinese and global media. Section 4 discusses the results of chapter 3. Chapter 5 provides a conclusion.

2. Research Methodology and data sources

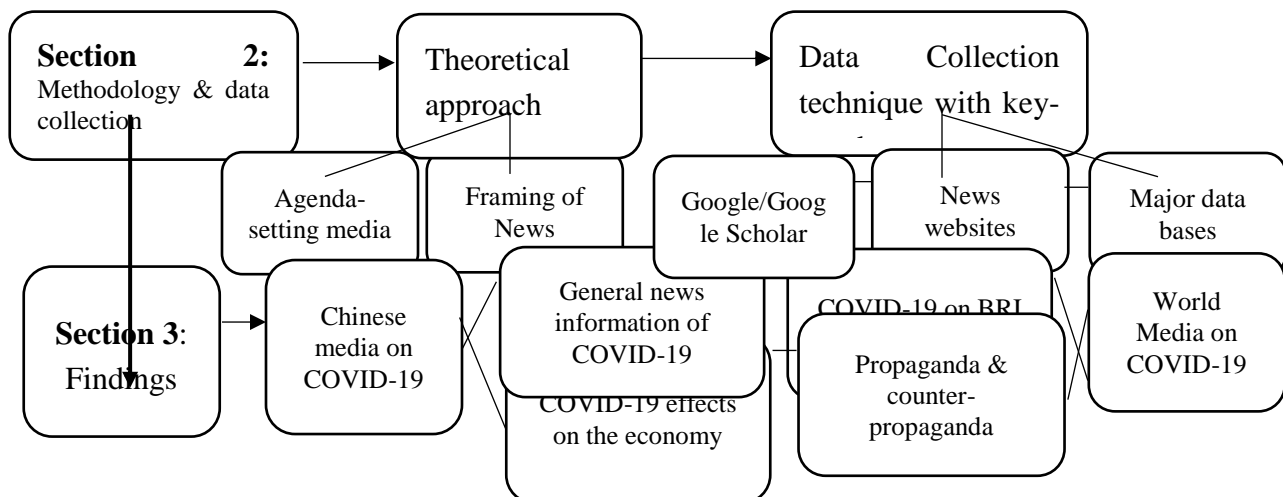
To analyze the content of newspaper about the outbreak and its impacts, the Chinese and international media news have been scrutinized. In this context, the data we have searched, is segregated into three parts; (1) general news and analysis in the Chinese and international media on the COVID-19 pandemic; (2) content analysis of the economic-related coverage on the pandemic in Chinese & global media; (3) the impact level of the coverage in terms of general news coverage and economic-related concerns on pandemic in Chinese & global media. General news refers to news that appears on the front or back page of the newspaper.

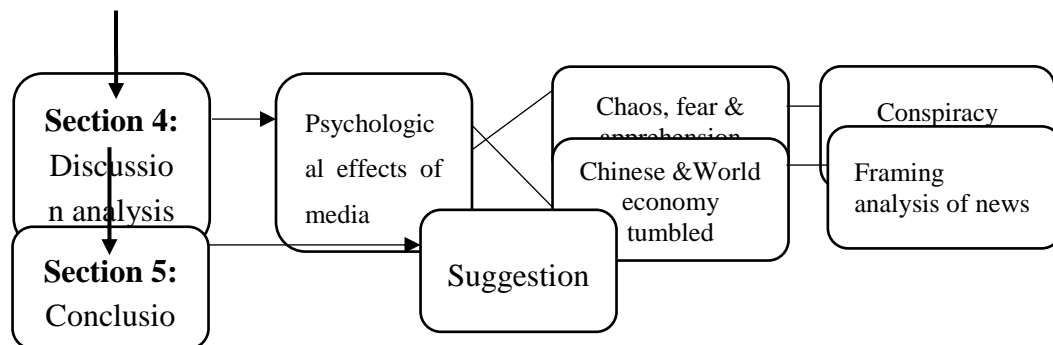
Normally, the most important happenings of national or international issue covers front page of the newspaper including lead and super-lead. Whereas, news related to economics and business places on commerce page. Thus, this is the criteria of news selection for general and commerce related news content in our research. Any of a major happenings anywhere in the world rivalry impact the regional or global economy, which makes it extremely important to review media reporting on the economic damage caused by the virus.

To analyze the news framing of the media coverage, we have investigated this phenomenon with the title of news and its content (see **Annexure 1**). Framing theory of the agenda-setting is being applied. This theory explores, media is more than a source of information and opinion. It may not be very much successful in telling people "what to think"; instead, it is stunningly successful in telling its reader/viewers "what to think about" (McCombs, 2011)[287] Agenda Setting, principally a bilateral process in which media, regime and the citizens mutually influence one another in areas of civic policy (Baran & Davis, 2013, p.322)[286]

In this regard, 143 media reports/contents of Chinese newspapers (Global Times, China Daily, XINHUANET & South China Morning Post, Shanghai Times) and the International (The Guardian, Bloomberg, CNBC, The New York Times, CNN, BBC, Reuters, The Wall Street Journal, The Times, DAWN, Financial Times, ALJAZEERA news, Times of India, Daily Mail, and The Economist) have been scrutinized and analyzed. Besides, the reports of world organizations such as World Economic Forum (WEF), World Health Organizations (WHO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank (WB), Green Belt, United Nations Trade and Development (UNTAD), and Road Initiative Center, have also made part of the literature review over the required period.

Data have been collected through online data sources such as Google, Google scholars and academic literature available on different databases over the COVID-19 on the local and global economy, while gigantic projects like BRI and CPEC will also be under the lens. For this purpose, we have searched the data from January 1st to 18th of March, 2020 when Chinese government announced to overcome the pandemic and zero case reported in Wuhan.





3. Results

3.1. General media reports on the outbreak of COVID-19

3.1.1. Chinese media perspective

The pandemic outbreak of the Coronavirus has affected 413,467 people worldwide, of which 18440 people have died, while 71,354 have recovered from the disease till 25th of March (Channel, 2020). The Chinese government has launched a telephone helpline service to help people to battle the Coronavirus (Kirton, 2020)[287]. In January when China's epidemic was taking its toll, Chinese media's focus was to discuss the strategy to increase exports and other development projects to contain virus as well as atmosphere of fear (G. Times, 2020a)[290]. An editorial of a Chinese newspaper criticized western media over being propagating the situation after COVID-19 outbreak against the China. The author of the editorial revealed that COVID-19 may affect all the countries whose business concerns with China is on behalf of BRI (Ai, 2020)[285].

Top universities took part to battle with coronavirus, stood and worked with government shoulder-to-shoulder (Daily, 2020f), while China planned to act as booster dose for Europe's economy (Garrie, 2020) [286],[286]. After success in curbing the spread of COVID, China spend millions of masks and surgical instruments to Spain, Cambodia and many other counties effected by the virus (Xinhua, 2020o)[2910]. After around eighty-days of virus Wuhan is declared from suspected virus cases (Xinhua, 2020l)[291]. Despite the severe outbreak, China is busy in developing 5G technology(Xinhua, 2020c)[2912].

Due to destruction in supply chain, there is a slight inflation recorded after the lockdown in China, but the measurements taken by the government have supported the market(Xinhua, 2020j)[2913]. Foreign companies express confidence in government strategy as the Chinese government overcomes epidemic, experts say (Xinhua, 2020n)[2914]. China is taking fast-forwarding steps to stabilize economic and social development as outbreak is under-control (Xinhua, 2020b)[2905]. President of Pakistan Dr. ArifAlvi visit of China to discuss the execution of CPEC projects after pandemic(G. Times, 2020d)[290]. The West media has been over-reacting on COVID-19 outbreak, while they have remained silent about just how deadly common influenza in the US(Md, 2020)[287].

China will bounce back to its world trade, despite pandemic (William, 2020)[290]. China has released the seventh version of the diagnosis and treatment on the novel coronavirus. Some drugs may have potential to defeat against the virus (Xinhua, 2020d)[291]. They ways China have fought with the killing virus it has bring hope to the world (Daily, 2020d)[286]. The virus has put its tents in Europe. China has assured Europe of all possible help in this crucial time (Xinhua, 2020r)[2911]. World confess the Chinese support to the affected countries of the virus (Xinhua, 2020q)[291]. China promptly diverted their attention to Job hunting and economic concerns, as the number of cases of the COVID-19 down to zero (Xinhua, 2020p)[291].

Pakistani President lauds Chinese government's efforts to tackle the Coronavirus, finalize the CPEC project, tackle the Coronavirus and discuss law and order situation in the region (Hui et al., 2020)[287]. Pakistan China will work together to counter the potential effects of the Coronavirus (Wang & Chu, 2020)[290]. The Wuhan city from where corona virus was originated, is declared of no more suspected virus cases on 18th of March (Xinhua, 2020l)[291].

3.1.2 World media perspective

When the virus spread in Wuhan, the Chinese government promptly suspended flights and trains operations to contain virus (B. News, 2020a)[288]. Government announced to build hospitals for the patients infected by virus within six days (Williams, 2020)[290]. Chinese media report that fear of spreading virus to mass level on Chinese new year (B. News, 2020b)[288]. BBC report a victim of COVID-19, the story depicts that the victim wasn't scared of virus, rather she was psychologically disturbed(B. News, 2020 d)[288]. The situation got worsen in the Chinese hospital as a patient is given bed just before three hours of his death (B. News, b)[288]. Death toll to more than one-thousands, Chinese officials in Wuhan are fired by the government officials over their negligence of spreading virus (B. News, 2020e)[289].

China imposed censorship on Weibo, a social media platform, to control the debate over the Coronavirus (Kuo, 2020)[287]. An article in The Guardian narrate Dr. Li Wenliang's death as an outrage and anger, the ordinary Chinese people demanding the freedom of speech (Yu, 2020)[291].A report on BBC news framed as a Chinese woman named Sami Yang, who lives in Berlin, Germany, was refused to visit the doctor when she went to the hospital to get her checkup just because she is Chinese. The hospital management refused to admit the Chinese to contain the spread of virus (Wong, 2020)[290].

As the virus spreads in the China, President Trump hoped good for their economy (B. News, a)[288]. China is accused of spreading fear instead of supporting the United States (B. News, c)[288]. Virus cases reported in the US more than 100 thousands but the data shows 10% were young people were also under attack by the killing virus(Cortez et al., 2020)[286]. More than six-hundred passengers of Diamond Princess cruise, boarded and quarantined due to the doubt of having COVID-19 bacillus (Jake, 2020)[287]. Thousands are quarantined off the coast of Japan on board one cruise ship, the Diamond Princess (Wetsman, 2020)[290].

Health advisor to Prime Minister of Pakistan Dr. Zafar Mirza tweeted about the first two cases of Coronavirus in Pakistan, saying no need to panic, and the situation is under control (Karachi, 2020)[287]. School closed in Karachi; there is shortage of masks; however; government said no need to panic (Priyanka, 2020)[289]. More suspects have been detected with Coronavirus; the isolation wards have also been established to facilitate the patients suffering from the disease (Basharat et al., 2020)[286]. Pakistan is a developing country, which cannot afford the jolts of COVID-19 and its effects. (Ebrahim, 2020)[286]. China treated all people with no discrimination of caste, creed, or color. Despite much propaganda, the Chinese handled the situation well and fought back with pride (Shaukat, 2020)[289].

In Italy, Sino-phobia has increased as people have stopped coming to Chinese hotel restaurants (Lowen, 2020)[287]. We could not find a single media report on government measures to treat all citizens with non-discriminatory and rehabilitation in loss of business, which is a proof that the world is unable to launch a media awareness campaign to curb the COVID-19. The Harvard Business Review analyzed the situation in China after the outbreak and suggested that confusion is compounded by a plethora of media reports with different perspectives and advice. This issue needed to be addressed strictly (Martin et al., 2020)[287].

Death toll to 366 in Italy, more than fifteen-million people were restricted in their homes (B. News, 2020d)[289]. Due to fear of virus, Italy is viewing as the city of silence, atmosphere of fear everywhere (B. News, i)[288]. A story narrates the effects of quarantine and isolation as the fear of illness (B. News, f)[288]. The World Health Organization claims that fake news is the cause of panic atmosphere (Zoe Thomas, 2020)[291]. World Health Organization announced emergency for the sake of health concerns as virus is spreading (A. J. News, 2020a)[288].

Arab reacted like. Kuwaiti government announced serious penalty for ant-violation virus regulations (A. Times, 2020)[290]. Qatar banned entry for foreigners as the number of infected people rise (A. J. News, 2020g)[288]. Indian government announced one-day curfew to contain the pandemic (A. J. News, 2020f)[288]. The United States put sanctions on U.A.E based firm on purchasing oil from Iran (A. J. News, 2020h)[288]. An Arab news reports that the virus has also affected the Arab countries badly. Report claims that governments have no plan if the virus reaches to the refugee camps (Post, 2020)[289]. Refugees have been left vulnerable (A. J. News, b)[288].

As the virus is spreading, the lockdown is the first and last option to break down virus chain (B. News, 2020 h)[288]. Japan is the second-country after China, who took quick and quality measurement to contain the virus, so it controlled quickly (Reidy, 2020)[289]. The deaths rises in the Italy, experts fear that if food is not prevented by the outbreak of the Corona virus, food shortages and food shortages may be in crisis (Mayberry et al., 2020)[287]. The politicians and celebrities are also affected by the virus (A. J. News, 2020e)[288]; Italian governor isolated himself (A. J. News, a)[288]. COVID-19 quarantined the Italians (Daily, 2020b)[286]. Big sport events are cancelled across the world (A. J. News, 2020d)[288]. Europe is heading towards the whole region lockdown as the Euro zone is under red zone due to a pandemic outbreak (A. J. News, 2020c)[288].

The patient has been admitted in an isolation ward after testing positive(DAWN, 2020)[287]. Saudi Arabia unprecedentedly move suspended the Umrah pilgrimage(A et al., 2020)[285]. The cabinet emphasized to increase

awareness campaign through media, screening at the airports should be closely monitor and database on the media to overcome the pandemic (Ghilzai, n.d.)[286]. China acknowledged PM Imran Khan's and military Selfless support (I & INP, 2020)[287].

3.2. Impact of COVID-19 on the economy

3.2.1 Chinese media perspective

The impact of COVID-19 wouldn't alter China's long-term economic plans, nor will it deprive of its competitive advantages to attract foreign investment (G. Times, 2020b)[290]. Chinese foreign direct investment (FDI) may fall by 1% in Q1 due to pandemic (Huang, 2020)[287]. The US equities plunge as outbreak spread across the country (Xinhua, 2020k)[291], the Dow down to approximately 3,000 point as panic in the market (Xinhua, 2020i)[291]. Brazilian stock exchange steep-down (Xinhua, 2020h)[291], Tokyo stocks substantially lower (Xinhua, 2020g)[291]. The New-York federal reserves to inject \$150b into financial market to over COVID-19 (Xinhua, 2020f)[291].

Tariff imposed on goods and services would cost of \$450b on the US economy (Xinhua, 2020a)[290]. The IMF mission chief asked countries to achieve targeted polices against COVID-19 (Xinhua, 2020e)[291]. The government of Wuhan, to fight the immediate threats for the domestic economy, taken multiple monetary and fiscal measures. People's Bank of China injected 1.2 trillion yuan (USD 173 billion) into the financial market to safeguard the liquidity of financial institutions and businesses(WANG, 2020)[290].

3.2.2 World media perspective

Asia-Pacific equities and US stock futures glided after a meter of Chinese industrial units activity cut down to its bottom on record, and state bankers noted the risks to economies from Coronavirus. Japan's Topix went down to 1%, whereas S&P/ASX 200 Shed 2.8%. US stock is at its lowest after the 2008 recession (Woodhouse et al., 2020)[290]. This COVID-19 will last longer than the SARS virus, which disrupted the economy for at least one quarter. It is expected that CONVID-19 may remain for two quarters before completely containing (Tan, 2020)[289]. United Nations (UN) releases \$15m for susceptible countries to fight against COVID-19(UN releases US\$15 million to help vulnerable countries battle the spread of the coronavirus, 2020)[290].

In 2002-03 when the SARS virus affected China, the global economy faced a loss of \$40b. Now, after 18 years as the Chinese economy is 8 to 9 times higher than the previous outbreak. China contributes 16.3% approximately of the world's economy, while the International Monetary Fund (IMF) accounted for 39% of global economic growth (Ayitney et al., 2020)[286]. Chinese mobility and transport sector down to 50% compared to last year (He & Huang, 2020)[287]. Xi stressed that overcoming the impact of the COVID-19 is very important to clinch a complete victory in the fight against poverty (Ju, 2020)[287].

The Chinese economy expansion is on its 30 years low (A. J. News, 2020b)[288]. China's business and development are expected to slow down to 4.5% in the first quarter of 2020 (Hutt, 2020)[287]. The world's second largest economy's industrial outlook is likely to steep-down in the Chinese factory's output (Partington, 2020)[289]. The supply of Apple phones to shoppers dramatically dropped down (Neate, 2020)[288].

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) predicts that the COVID-19 outbreak would affect the air transport industry and expected to fall down by 4%, which may result in a loss in revenue of \$29.3bn this year. The first decline in the air transport industry since 2008-09 (Sweney, 2020)[289]. As the COVID-19 strikes, Europe and the United Kingdom, British Airlines cut 432 flights for Europe, London, and the United States between 16 to March 28, 2020. On the other hand, Ryanair also disconnected its hundreds of carrier for Europe between March 17 to April 8. It may result as the loss of €150 to €200m off its earnings(Topham, 2020)[290]. COVID-19 will have a significant impact on New Zealand's (NZ) economy. The pandemic outbreak may lead the world towards another global recession. The Finance minister of NZ talked to the media (Roy, 2020)[289]. Factory activities in China steep-down in February and manufacturing works were closed to encompass the spread of COVID-19.

The country's Purchasing Manager's Index (PMI) fell to 10.3 from 50 in January 2020. That shows that the outbreak would leave a considerable impact on the Chinese economy as well as on the whole world (Prescott, 2020)[289]. COVID-19 is affecting US, European, and Asian stocks the worst. The market is having the worst week since the global financial crisis of 2008. Three main US indexes are down by 10%. London's FTSE 100 index down by 3.2%. Other such as Dow is 1.4% down, S&P is 0.8%, and Nasdaq remained flat (B. News, 2020e)[289]. G-7 countries assurance to use strategy tackles but proposed no precise activities to battle COVID-19 epidemic (Cox, 2020)[286]. Europe announced billions of dollars to cope with virus (B. News, 2020g)[289]. Euro zone banks announced to support the market under panic circumstances (Walker, 2020)[290]. Airline industry concerned that they can't survive without bailout package (Harper, 2020)[287]. Big companies like BMW, Honda, and Toyota suspended car production in the UK (B. News, 2020 g)[289]. World Bank announced \$12 to overcome emergency situation (B. News, 2020 h)[288]. The pandemic effected oil prices in international market, investor facing panic

circumstances (B. News, 2020c)[288]. World stock market got panic as the pandemic outbreak spreads to the most countries on the earth (Herma, 2020)[287]. Stock suffers worst losses, most of stock-indexes on their history low(LANE, 2020)[287].

The COVID-19 panic the world market, stunning market declines fan recession fear (Long et al., 2020)[287]. Under panic circumstances wait for the good time for investment in the stock market, wait for a good dip to cash good price (Gilchrist, 2020)[286]. Three quarters of the world's countries have been affected by the Corona virus; increasing numbers of affected countries are at the forefront of the global economic crisis (Bartash, 2020)[286]. European Union (EU) set up a commission to assess the situation to deal with the European emergency, which will address the human health situation (EU, 2020)[286].

3.3 Media reports on the impacts of Covid-19 on the BRI & CPEC

3.3.1 Chinese media perspective

The novel Coronavirus hammered on Chinese President Mr. Xi Jiping's Belt and Road Initiative vision. (A. Ahmed, 2020)[285]. Belts and Roads have been shut down since the beginning of the coronavirus outbreak. Work has stopped over CPEC, Cambodia's exclusive economic zone, the Payra coal power plant in Bangladesh, and projects have been delayed in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Myanmar (Shepard, 2020)[289]. Overall the outbreak will not affect the BRI. Some plans may be delayed, but it will be for a short time (Yang, 2020)[291]. A news story in the *Daily China*, claims that the outbreak will not affect the BRI (D. China, 2020)[291]. The epidemic of coronavirus that has been spreading in China is going to have severe impacts on Chinese global economy (Narayanan, 2020)[288].

China's COVID-19 is fear and sending markets into a wealth-destroying tailspin. It has alarmed that the world economy should be ready for another recession. Even every sector in China will have to face the negative consequence. The BRI projects also expected to delay (Goodman, 2020)[286]. Christoph Nedopil Wang, Director Green Belt and Road Initiative Center at International Institute for Green Finance, explains that China is fighting to keep the economic floating, as these decisions come at a potentially high financial cost for China and its international partners, particularly BRI(Wang, 2020)[290].The virus will not affect the CPEC (Zhou, 2020)[291] and BRI (Zhang, 2020)[291].

3.3.2 Global media perspective

The Pakistan government has sent its first consignment of aid to facilitate China's fight against Coronavirus (Mian, 2020)[287]. International Monetary Fund (IMF) concerns the negative impact on GDP growth. Pakistani authorities said there were no adverse effects on Pakistan's economy (Mehtab, 2020)[287].The outbreak will affect the economy of Pakistan and CPEC directly or indirectly. Trade and business activities have effected surrounding of CPEC routes and in Gawadar sector. Small and medium business, especially construction sector effected badly (Karachi, 2020)[287]. Foreign Minister of Pakistan Shah Mahmood Qureshi says CPEC will march forward despite pandemic (Bozun, 2020)[286].

3.4 Forge news, rumors and misinformation about COVID-19

There are numerous social media websites which are spreading false information or fake news. Big social media sites like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc. started awareness campaign and blocking such fake news (Zu Thomas, 2020)[290]. In a World Economic Forum's (WEF) report, in a comparison, it took years to identify HIV, some months for SARS-2003 and a few days to identify an unknown virus. Chinese really identified dangerous virus with speed and accuracy (Wu et al., 2020)[290]. Misinformation, fake news and rumors made the atmosphere of fear and world got panic. Media should play responsible role in disseminating information (POWELL, 2020)[289]. BRI and CPEC providing excellent fascination over COVID-19's cause misses the full picture (G. Zheng, 2020)[291].

3.4.1. Propaganda & counter-propaganda

The propaganda started from social media news claiming about a biological war started by the US against China. An editorial in Arab Times referring social media fake news or conspiracy theories claims that this is a biological war against China (Al-Azmi, 2020)[285]. In the early stages of the outbreak, some of conspiracy theories/stories on the social media narrating "the U.S used a biological weapon against the China". The conspiracy story came about when Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhou Li Jian tweeted that US troops had brought the virus to Wuhan City. The backdrop of this statement is that 200 US troops participated in the World Military Games held in Wuhan, China last October.

For the first time Chinese officials have responded to conspiracy stories on the Coronavirus through world media (S. Zheng & Mai, 2020)[291]. The United States constrict rules on Chinese State media over propaganda concerns (The Guardian, 2020)[289]. The China-US standoff escalate as Beijing deported US journalists(Graham-Harrison, 2020)[287]. Beijing is an untimely attack on freedom of expression that will cause harm to the world (N. Times, 2020)[290]. President Trump respond to Chinese reaction by calling COVID-19 a "Chinese-virus"(Rogers et al., 2020)[289].

China expels the U.S based journalists on spreading misinformation and propaganda against China. It is also in response of the U.S action that restricted Chinese journalists working in the US. The US accused of China moving towards a cold war (Russell & Davidson, 2020)[289]. The Chinese foreign minister tweeted that the US Army might have involved in spreading virus in Wuhan, last October (Daily, 2020c)[286]. A you-tuber raised the question over hiding information about the real situation of infected cases in the US by the government (Daily, 2020a)[286]. World accused to President Trump, as he called COVID-19 a “Chinese virus” (Daily, 2020e)[286]. A TV news report says that novel coronavirus may originate from the US (G. Times, 2020c)[290]. An article explains that “no one will be allowed to propagate rumors in the market”(Caiyu, 2020)[286].

After imposing sanctions on the Chinese media houses in the US, China took counter measures against the US(Xinhua, 2020m)[291] and China spins tale that the US army who participated in the games held in Wuhan, October 2019 (Myers, 2020)[287]. China has warned the United States that it needs to save the world from deadly viruses instead of blaming each other, after its success in curbing the spread of the Corona virus (Hoaran, 2020)[287]. China has signed an online petition asking US President Trump to apologize over their blames and racial words against China (Haoran, 2020)[287].

4. Discussion

4.1. Psychological effects of sensational media coverage caused apprehension

Any major accident or event occurring anywhere in the world must have an impact on the economy and the stock exchange. However, the outbreak of the Coronavirus erupting from China has put the world’s economy on the brink of disaster. In order to understand the impact Chinese and global media coverage on the Coronavirus epidemic has had on consumers, we have thoroughly reviewed one-hundred-forty-three articles. Here we have following impacts after content analysis of literature:

4.1.1. Chaos and fear around the world

At the beginning of January this year, when the Corona epidemic broke out in China, Asian stock market was experiencing a downward trend. However, between January and the end of January, the effects of the outbreak on European and American markets began to appear. After analyzing forty-six news reports linked to the outbreak of the five Chinese media houses, it can be said that the Chinese media, with great responsibility, disseminated the news, resulting in public encouragement rather than frustration, anxiety or panic. 10.6% of the news concerning with general information over the COVID-19 resulting high impact, 6.3% medium and 21.2% projected low impact. Similarly, the media reports on CPEC and BRI leaving 10.5% and 14.8% medium to low impact respectively. This Chinese newspapers publishes government policies on Belt and Road vision and CPEC, the content produce medium to low impact on the readers.

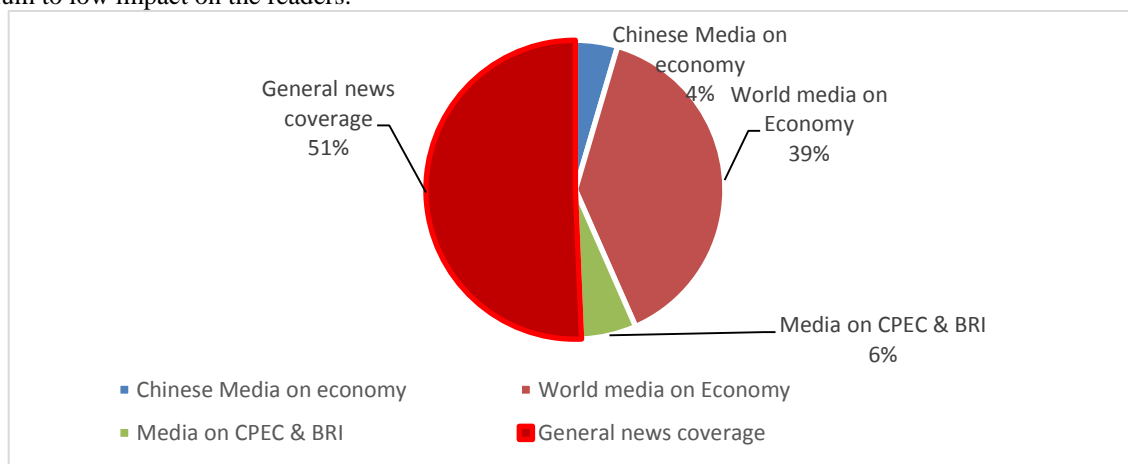


Fig.2: % of news literature reviewed

The outbreak began to spread in Europe and the US and in the month of February and March respectively. Therefore, as the global media reacts to the outbreak in China, China reacts similarly to the outbreak as it spread in the US and Europe. 17% of the news content leaving highly negative impact on the viewers, that might cause of panic among the people. The news framing in the Chinese media shows a high impact trend. While the Chinese media has observed every economic step of the government to reach the people in a vigorous manner so that there is no frustration and disappointment among the people. 10.6% of news is medium and 8% of news is showing low

impact. The news has been placed in the medium and low Impact category based on government economic initiatives, health sector, small and medium enterprises, banking sector, digital working, media and other business sector reforms.

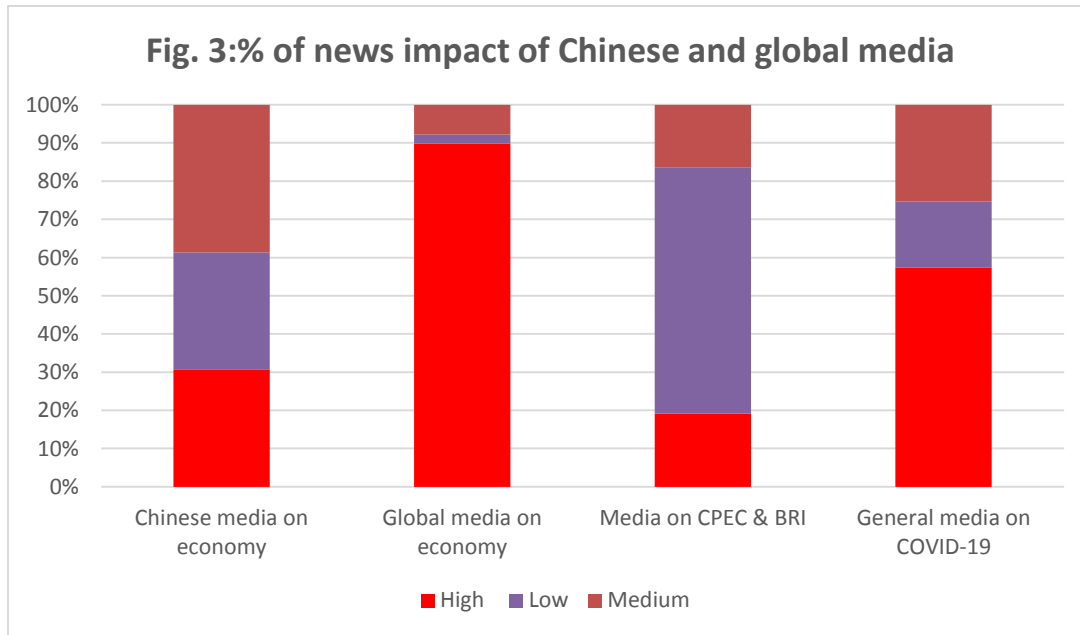


Fig.3: % of news impact of Chinese and global media
a. World economy tumbled

World media exacerbated the outbreak in China. As a result, negative, disappointing, and frightening news has had profound psychological effects on the minds of ordinary people. Coverage of COVID-19 effecting to mental health. People should avoid listening to news and spread any rumors or conspiracy news on social media (Luna, 2020)[287]. Australian Psychological Association advice to stay positive to maintain good mental health (APA, 2020)[285]. Citizens' measures to lock down cities to prevent virus have upset people mentally (Baculinao et al., 2020)[286].

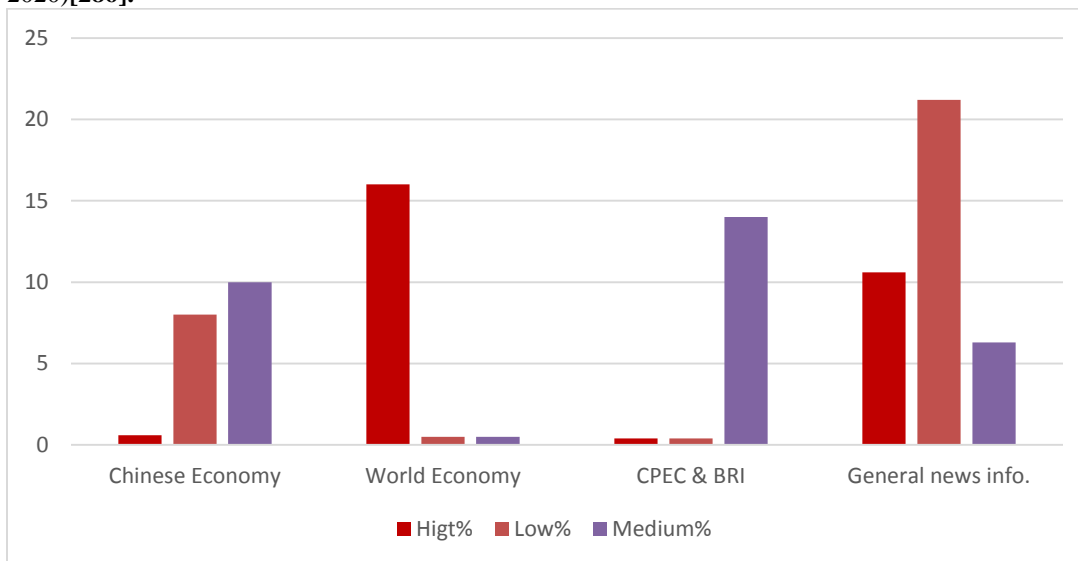


Fig. 4: News content analysis of Chinese media presenting impacts

The business community has become uncertain, with uncertainty hitting stock markets and economies around the world. News reports in the global media reveal that sixteen percent of the general news that was only related to the Corona virus was based on content that consumers could be disappointed and uncertain about. For example, the outbreak in China, then the increase in the number of casualties and victims, the spread of the outbreak to other

countries, the number of deaths in other countries is increasing day by day, how does the virus transform from one person to another, and so on.

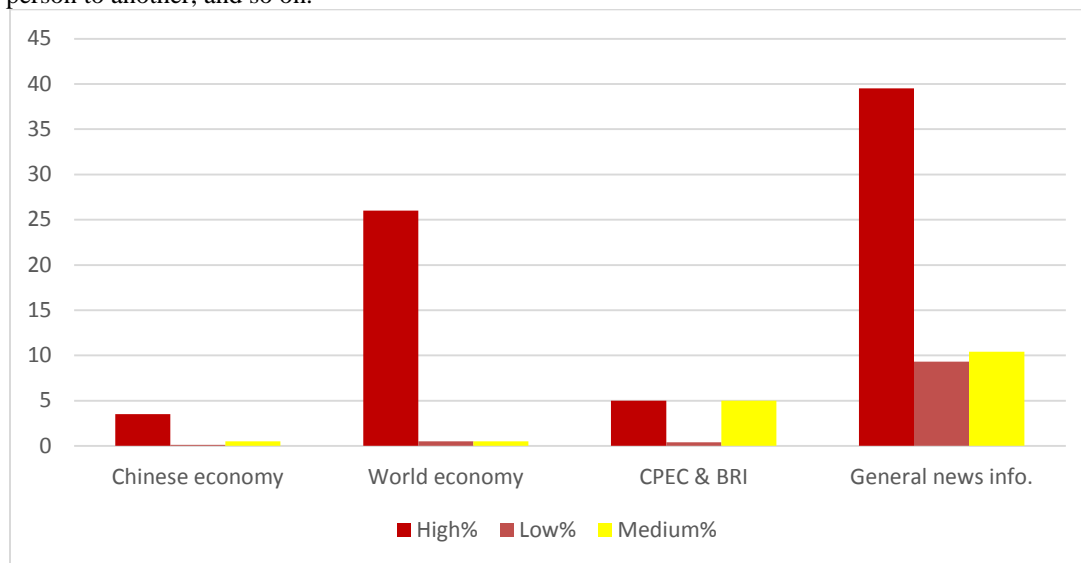


Fig. 5. News content of world media and presenting impacts
b. Conspiracy theories a myth

In the last part of January 2020, news began to spread on social media, accusing the United States of spreading the virus, but at the time, China was busy controlling the virus. During this period a bundle of conspiracy theories keep floating on social media such as “world is heading towards end”, a cold war between China and US, game of power etc. The literature don’t prove such conspiracy theories rather a myth. Even science has proved the germs of novel coronavirus in the human body.

c. News framing of the media and its consequences

A U.S based website “Defense One” in an article argued that misinformation about the pandemic is spreading as quickly as an outbreak(TUCKER, 2020)[290]. Air-pollution has killed approximately seven million people worldwide annually(WHO, 2019a)[290]. While, other respiratory track like motility rate of tuberculosis is 15% (WHO, 2019b)[290], pneumonia & influenza death rate is 6.9% (FLEMING, 2020)[286] and pandemic like COVID-19 has 3.4% (WHO, 2020)[290] of motility ratio infected by virus. These figures show that the mobility rate of COVID-19 is 3% less than the rates of all other top lethal respiratory infectious diseases.

The literature we have reviewed narrates negative news framing over the pandemic coverage. 73.75% of overall news content produced by the international media created high impact of negative content, comparing with the Chinese media which produced only 27% negative content. This proportion of negative framing of news suggests a “coherent agenda setting” over the coverage of pandemic worldwide. The World Economic Forum (WEF) reports that the situation is worse than we thought. The Forum issued a media advisory in its report, warning that the public should not be misled by broadcasting false news, fake videos and rumored base hateful content.

The report said that fears of panic among European people had exacerbated by fake news and rumors, and people from Europe and London consider the epidemic extremely dangerous. The media needs to be cautious about making people aware of the Coronavirus (Pomeroy, 2020)[289].World organizations such as WEF, WHO, UNO, IMF, WB, etc..are reporting very responsible, educative, well balanced, and accountable. The battle against fake news, reports, rumors, and misinformation can only counter with accurate information and positive narrative (WHO, 2020)[290].

Under these circumstances of world health and economic emergency, for the broader domestic and worldwide interest, the world needs to control media coverage of the coronavirus and learn how Chinese media reported the truth in such a way that did not cause the turbulence, panic or uncertainty among the people. All affected countries should make policies at the government level on ethnic issues, business problems, and people to people matters caused by the Coronavirus and make this policy-aware through the media campaign. Countries that have trade ties with China, should establish an emergency committees to increase bilateral relations, rehabilitation of on-going projects and solve business problems. Under all these circumstances, media should set agenda for public to save the world from a new economic plight and government actions to overcome the pandemic.

The countries involved in the commercial corridor of the BRI and CPEC, bilateral committees, should talk about the problems and their solutions at the government level through the media to avoid economic chaos. The best example of media coverage over the global pandemic issue has observed recently. Chinese media overlooked all negative aspects of the outbreak and made government measures to control as the campaign part of the news and editorial policy. The media conveyed the facts of the virus and educated the precautions. The lockdown of Wuhan City brought the government to the public through media to compensate for the loss and loss of economic activity, making the Chinese market and currency somewhat stable.

5. Conclusions

In this research, we have carefully reviewed the media reports on Coronavirus, under the news framing of agenda-setting theory. To attain the objectives of the research, first we reviewed the general news reports on COVID-19, then news coverage of outbreak and its effects on economy including BRI & CPEC. At the end, we have compare and analyze the impact level of media coverage on the viewers in the Chinese & global media. According to the results, the attitude of the global media coverage on the COVID-19 was very aggressive and sensational, which resulted the panic among the general, elites and business community, consequently, people fall into depression and uncertainty.

The way the world media frames general news, 70% of the general news reports showing negative trends, comparing with the Chinese media is only 27%. Similarly, 90% news on business & economics in global media presenting negative trend which caused a great deal of anxiety and uncertainty among the investors and has caused irreparable loss of trillions of dollars to economies around the world. News coverage with full of thrill and sensation created uncertain situation in the market and people started extracting capital from stock exchanges. The government's measures to prevent the virus stopped companies, closed the markets, and left the system paralyzed. Similarly, 11 out of 17 news on BRI and CPEC were presenting low impact trend, 3 medium and 3 high impact level on its readers. All of low impact news were published in the Chinese news media, while the news published in the Pakistani media presented medium impact level, whereas global media news coverage created high level of impact, which resulted the market crash across the world.

Suggestions and future research direction:

Implications drawn from this study are (1) Media should be more responsive in reporting over such global challenges;(2) Global media should learn from Chinese media, how responsibly Chinese media news framing about the virus, which neither created an atmosphere of fear nor caused public chaos; rather, reporting over the government's measures to deal with the damages to the business and economy kept the hope for businessman; (3) An international media policy should be established on the platform of United Nations. Under such emergency circumstances, "authoritative reporting" would help in containing spread of false news and rumors.

The above laying literature suggest the following future research directions:(1) The role of social media in the spreading and prevention of the novel COVID-19; (2) Authoritative media reporting in "emergencies" can prevent economic, social and business emergencies: A Case study of Chinese media reporting on the COVID-19 and its effects; (3) Media competitiveness for post-effects of COVID-19 on the world economy; (4) The psychological effects of media reporting over the COVID-19 pandemic.

References

1. A, Agencies, &, NR, & Report, N. (2020, March). Coronavirus outbreak: Pakistan's sixth case confirmed: Dr Zafar. *International THE NEWS*.
2. Ahmed, A. (2020, February 8). Coronavirus to affect China's Belt and Road Initiative. *Business Recorder*. <https://www.brecorder.com/2020/02/08/569103/coronavirus-to-affect-chinas-belt-and-road-initiative/>
3. Ahmed, A. Z. (2020, February). Our role in the coronavirus outbreak. *Chinadaily.Com.Cn*.
4. Ai, J. (2020, February 19). West fails to seegreater BRI vitality after epidemic. *Global Times*. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1180173.shtml>
5. Al-Azmi, Y. (2020, March 2). CORONAVIRUS AND SOCIAL MEDIA. *Arab Times*. <https://www.arabtimesonline.com/news/coronavirus-and-the-social-media/>
6. APA. (2020). *Coronavirus: psychologists offer advice for maintaining positive mental health*. coronavirus: psychologists offer advice for maintaining positive mental health

7. Ayittey, F. K., Ayittey, M. K., Chiwero, N. B., Kamasah, J. S., & Dzuovor, C. (2020). Economic impacts of Wuhan 2019-nCoV on China and the world. *Journal of Medical Virology*, 0–3. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jmv.25706>
8. Baculinao, E., Shi, A., Wu, V., & Talmazan, Y. (2020, February 23). Lockdowns to curb coronavirus epidemic lead to a rise in mental health issues. *CNBC*. <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/lockdowns-curb-coronavirus-epidemic-lead-rise-mental-health-issues-n1140451>
9. Baran, S., & Davis, D. (2013). *Mass Communication Theory: Foundation, Ferment and future* (Sixth).
10. Bartash, J. (2020, February 25). Fears that the coronavirus will turn into a global economic pandemic are mounting. *Market Watch*. <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/fear-that-the-coronavirus-will-turn-into-a-global-economic-pandemic-is-building-2020-02-24>
11. Basharat, R., Ahmad, I., & February. (2020, February). 3 coronavirus cases detected in Rawalpindi. *THE NATION*.
12. BOYLE, A. (2020). *Genetic analysis suggests coronavirus infections double every six days, spreading to hundreds*. *GeekWire*. <https://www.geekwire.com/2020/genetic-analysis-suggests-coronavirus-infections-double-every-six-days-spreading-hundreds/>
13. Bozun, W. (2020, March 19). CPEC to march forward at full speed despite pandemic: Pakistani FM. *Global Times*. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1183171.shtml>
14. Caiyu, L. (2020, March 19). Beijing cuts infection channels from abroad. *Global Times*. <https://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1183177.shtml>
15. Channel, I. news. (2020). *Live updates*. *Infographic News Channel*. https://infographics.channelnewsasia.com/covid-19/map.html?fbclid=IwAR2bCSIKKkyVxbLK5qHN9F4gLYa_NG6TRwNF_uxwnxBOqa2loDbWsML5xU
16. Cortez, M., LaVito, A., & Robert, L. (2020, March 18). Yes, Young People Are Falling Seriously Ill From Covid-19. *Bloomberg*. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-19/coronavirus-in-young-people-is-it-dangerous-data-show-it-can-be>
17. Cox, J. (2020, March 3). G-7 countries promise to use policy tools but offer no specific actions to combat coronavirus. *CNBC*, 1. <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/03/g-7-coronavirus-statement.html>
18. Daily, P. (2020a, February 24). US Youtuber questions CDC transparency in COVID-19 numbers, citing leaked message. *People's Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0224/c90000-9661463.html>
19. Daily, P. (2020b, March 1). Italian strain of coronavirus isolated. *People's Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0301/c90000-9663473.html>
20. Daily, P. (2020c, March 13). US army might have brought epidemic to China, says Chinese FM spokesman in tweet. *People's Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0313/c90000-9668143.html>
21. Daily, P. (2020d, March 17). China's experience in battle against COVID-19 brings hope to the world. *People's Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0317/c90000-9669127.html>
22. Daily, P. (2020e, March 17). Trump calls the coronavirus the "Chinese Virus," the world disagrees. *People's Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0317/c90000-9669141.html>
23. Daily, P. (2020f, March 19). Top Chinese academicians become warriors in battle against novel coronavirus. *People's Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0319/c90000-9669975.html>
24. Ebrahim, T. Z. (2020, February). The shadow of the coronavirus on Pakistan. *Eco-Business*.
25. EU. (2020). COVID-19: Commission sets out European coordinated response to counter the economic impact of the Coronavirus. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_459
26. FLEMING, M. (2020). *US Flu Cases Reach 32 Million, Pediatric Hospitalization Rates Hit Record High*. *Contagion Live*. <https://www.contagionlive.com/news/us-flu-cases-reach-32-million-pediatric-hospitalization-rates-hit-record-high>
27. Garrie, A. (2020, January 13). How growing China can act as a booster dose for Europe's sluggish economy. *Global Times*. <https://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1176626.shtml>
28. Ghilzai, R. (n.d.). Coronavirus outbreak: Cabinet refuses to declare health emergency in Pakistan. *THE EXPRESS TRIBUNE*.
29. Gilchrist, K. (2020, March 15). How to keep your money safe as markets panic over coronavirus. *CNBC*. <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/16/investing-advice-how-to-keep-money-safe-amid-coronavirus-market-panic.html>
30. Goodman, P. (2020, January 28). China's Coronavirus Has Revived Global Economic Fears. *The New York Times*, 1. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/27/business/coronavirus-china-economic-impact.html>

31. Graham-Harrison, E. (2020, March 17). China-US standoff escalates as Beijing expels major US media staff. *The Guardian*. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/17/china-to-expel-more-us-journalists-in-latest-tit-for-tat-move>
32. Haoran, S. (2020, March 18). Chinese sign petitions asking Trump's apology for irresponsible COVID-19 tweet. *Global Times*. <https://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1183069.shtml>
33. Harper, J. (2020, March 19). Airlines warn they may not survive without bailout. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-51943289>
34. He, P., & Huang, Z. (2020). *How Chinese companies are responding to COVID-19 mobility challenges*. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/03/china-covid-19-coronavirus-mobility-solutions/>
35. Herma, S. (2020, March 16). Coronavirus Panic Infects Stock Markets. *Voice of America*. <https://www.voanews.com/usa/coronavirus-panic-infects-stock-markets>
36. Hoaran, S. (2020, March 18). US must stop stigmatizing China and work together against virus: expert. *Global Times*. <https://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1182987.shtml>
37. Huang, G. (2020, February 17). China's FDI growth may fall below 1% in Q1 amid epidemic: experts. *Global Times*. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1179901.shtml>
38. Hui, Z., Bozun, W., & Xuezheng, D. (2020, March 18). Alvi's Beijing visit shows true friendship amid pandemic. *Global Times*. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1182930.shtml>
39. Hutt, R. (2020). *The economic effects of the COVID-19 coronavirus around the world*. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/02/coronavirus-economic-effects-global-economy-trade-travel/>
40. I, & INP. (2020, March). CPEC not to be affected by coronavirus, says Chinese scholar. *International THE NEWS*.
41. Jake, S. (2020, February 10). Coronavirus: Diamond Princess passengers bored and isolated in quarantine, but many still love cruises. *Abs News*. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-02-11/australian-coronavirus-patient-still-loves-cruises/11949798>
42. Ju, P. (2020, March 6). Highlights of Xi's remarks on securing a decisive victory in poverty alleviation despite the epidemic. *XinhuaNet*. xinhuanet.com/english/2020-03/07/c_138851140.htm
43. Karachi, (AFP). (2020, February). Pakistan confirms first two cases of coronavirus. *France24*.
44. KARACHI, P. (REUTERS). (2020, March). Coronavirus: Pakistan confirms two more cases, bringing total to four. *THE STRAITSTIME*.
45. Kirton, D. (2020, February 10). Chinese public dial in for support as coronavirus takes mental toll. *Reuters*. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-health-mental/chinese-public-dial-in-for-support-as-coronavirus-takes-mental-toll-idUSKBN2070H2>
46. Kuo, L. (2020, March 2). China cracks down on "sexual innuendo" and "celebrity gossip" in new censorship rules. *The Guardian*, 1. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/02/china-new-internet-censorship-rules-raise-fears-of-renewed-crackdown>
47. LANE, S. (, March). Stocks suffer worst losses since 1987 crash amid coronavirus panic. *THE HILL*. <https://thehill.com/policy/finance/487312-stocks-suffer-worst-losses-since-1987-crash-amid-coronavirus-panic>
48. Long, H., Heath, T., Will, E., & Telford, T. (2020, March 10). Coronavirus panic, stunning market declines fan recession fears. *Washington Post*. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2020/03/09/coronavirus-panic-stunning-market-declines-fan-recession-fears/>
49. Lowen, M. (2020, February 4). Coronavirus: Chinese targeted as Italians panic. *BBC News*, 1. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-51370822>
50. Luna, K. (2020). *Speaking of Psychology: Coronavirus Anxiety*. <https://www.apa.org/research/action/speaking-of-psychology/coronavirus-anxiety>
51. Martin, R., Lars, F., Cinthia, C., Philipp, C.-S., & Kevin, W. (2020). *How Chinese Companies Have Responded to Coronavirus*. <https://hbr.org/2020/03/how-chinese-companies-have-responded-to-coronavirus>
52. Mayberry, K., Umut, U., & Alsaafin, L. (2020, March 19). Italy overtakes China's death toll. *Al Jazeera News*. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/uk-schools-close-italy-covid-19-deaths-jump-live-updates-200318235116951.html>
53. McCombs, M. (2011). The Agenda-Setting Role of the Mass Media in the Shaping of Public Opinion. 21.
54. Md, H. (2020, February 11). Why the West is overreacting to coronavirus. *Global Times*. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1179162.shtml>
55. Mehtab, H. (, February). Coronavirus outbreak: IMF warns of negative impact on Pak economy. *International THE NEWS*.
56. Mian, A. (2020, February). Pakistan sends first consignment of aid to help China fight deadly Coronavirus.
57. Myers, S. (2020, March 14). China Spins Tale That the U.S. Army Started the Coronavirus Epidemic.

- New York Times*. [nytimes.com/2020/03/13/world/asia/coronavirus-china-conspiracy-theory.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/13/world/asia/coronavirus-china-conspiracy-theory.html)
58. Narayanan, R. (2020). *Coronavirus: Impact on Chinese Economy and BRI*. <http://usiblog.in/coronavirus-impact-on-chinese-economy-and-bri/>
 59. Neate, R. (2020, February 17). Apple warns of coronavirus causing iPhone shortages. *The Guardian*, 1. <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2020/feb/17/apple-warns-of-coronavirus-causing-iphone-shortages>
 60. News, A. J. (a, February). Italian regional governor goes into isolation over coronavirus. *Al Jazeera News*. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/02/italian-regional-governor-isolation-coronavirus-200227100017419.html>
 61. News, A. J. (b, March). Coronavirus pandemic leaves refugees vulnerable. *Al Jazeera News*. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/coronavirus-pandemic-leaves-refugees-vulnerable-200319170010816.html>
 62. News, A. J. (2020a, January 29). WHO says spread of coronavirus is 'public health emergency of international concern'. *Al Jazeera News*. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/01/cloneofcloneofcloneofchina-battles-coronavirus-o-200129233906291.html>
 63. News, A. J. (2020b, March 3). How the coronavirus outbreak is affecting the global economy. *Al Jazeera News*, 1. <https://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/countingthecost/2020/02/coronavirus-outbreak-affecting-global-economy-200229125804909.html>
 64. News, A. J. (2020c, March 16). Europe edging towards total coronavirus lockdown. *Al Jazeera News*. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/europe-edging-total-coronavirus-lockdown-200316131203376.html>
 65. News, A. J. (2020d, March 19). Coronavirus: What sporting events are affected by the pandemic? *Al Jazeera News*. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/coronavirus-sporting-events-affected-outbreak-200310084205890.html>
 66. News, A. J. (2020e, March 19). Coronavirus pandemic: Which politicians and celebs are affected? *Al Jazeera News*. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/coronavirus-pandemic-politicians-celebs-affected-200315165416470.html>
 67. News, A. J. (2020f, March 19). India's PM Modi orders one-day nationwide curfew to combat virus. *Al Jazeera News*. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/india-pm-modi-orders-day-nationwide-curfew-combat-virus-200319153054449.html>
 68. News, A. J. (2020g, March 19). Qatar bans entry of foreigners as coronavirus cases rise. *Al Jazeera News*. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/coronavirus-cases-qatar-related-migrant-workers-200318191539620.html>
 69. News, A. J. (2020h, March 19). US slaps sanctions on UAE-based firms over Iran oil purchases. *Al Jazeera News*. <https://www.aljazeera.com/ajimpact/slaps-sanctions-uae-based-firms-iran-oil-purchases-200319180941703.html>
 70. News, B. (a, January). Trump administration calls for Corona virus "hope for improvement" in US economy. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/world-51323142>
 71. News, B. (b, February). 'My grandfather got a bed in the hospital just three hours before he died. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/regional-51502154>
 72. News, B. (c, February). Corona Virus: China accused of spreading fear instead of supporting the United States. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/regional-51353715>
 73. News, B. (d, February). Female out of isolation of the corona virus. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/world-51734107>
 74. News, B. (e, February). Over 1000 killed in China, several senior Chinese officials fired. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/world-51436430>
 75. News, B. (f, March). Corona Virus: How is quarantine or isolation in fear of illness? *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/regional-51904880>
 76. News, B. (g, March). Coronavirus: BMW, Honda and Toyota suspend UK car production. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-51944301>
 77. News, B. (h, March). Coronavirus: World Bank pledges \$12bn in emergency aid. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-51728766>
 78. News, B. (i, March). Fear of the Corona virus in Italy: "Everyone is calm and there is an atmosphere of fear." *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/world-51870917>
 79. News, B. (2020a, January 23). Flights, trains canceled from Wuhan city to prevent spread of virus. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/science-51202245>
 80. News, B. (2020b, January 24). Fears of further outbreak of Corona virus on New Year's Eve. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/51230866>

81. News, B. (2020c, February 4). Corona virus affects global oil trade, ginger, garlic prices rise in Pakistan. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/regional-51365775>
82. News, B. (2020d, February 9). Death toll rises to 366 in Italy, more than 15 million population under restrictions. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/regional-51784321>
83. News, B. (2020e, February 28). Coronavirus: Global shares suffer worst week since financial crisis. *BBC Business News*, 1. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-51639654>
84. News, B. (2020f, March 19). Coronavirus: What measures are countries taking to stop it? *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-51737226>
85. News, B. (2020g, March 19). Europe sets up emergency lifeline worth billions. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-51955389>
86. No serious impact of new coronavirus on BRI projects: China Daily. (2020, February 4). *Associated Press of Pakistan*, 1. <https://www.app.com.pk/no-serious-impact-of-new-coronavirus-on-bri-projects-china-daily/>
87. Pakistan's coronavirus infections rise to 5. (2020, March). *THE ECONOMIC TIMES*.
88. Partington, R. (2020, February 23). Economic impact of coronavirus outbreak deepens. *The Guradian*, 1. <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/feb/23/economic-impact-of-coronavirus-outbreak-deepens>
89. Pomeroy, R. (2020). *Facts, not fear, will stop COVID-19 - so how should we talk about it?* https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/03/covid-19-coronavirus-who-media-guidelines-stigma-language/?utm_source=sfmc&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2713482_Agenda_weekly-6March2020-Campaign-20200304_104635&utm_term=&emailType=Newsletter
90. Post, T. J. (2020, March 12). Voices from The Arab Press: coronavirus and refugees. *The Jerusalem Post*. <https://www.jpost.com/Middle-East/Voices-from-The-Arab-Press-coronavirus-and-refugees-620678>
91. POWELL, M. (2020, March 15). What role can the media play in managing the COVID-19 outbreak? *Infectious Disease Hub*. <https://www.id-hub.com/2020/03/05/role-can-media-play-managing-covid-19-outbreak/>
92. Prescott, K. (2020, February 23). Chinese manufacturing hits record low amid coronavirus outbreak. *BBC World*, 1. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-51689178>
93. Priyanka, G. (2020, February). Coronavirus in Pakistan: Mask-buying panic leading to shortages. *Al Jazeera's*.
94. Reidy, G. (2020, March 19). A Coronavirus Explosion Was Expected in Japan. Where Is It? *Bloomberg*. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-19/a-coronavirus-explosion-was-expected-in-japan-where-is-it>
95. Rogers, K., Jakes, L., & Ana, S. (2020, March 18). Trump Defends Using 'Chinese Virus' Label, Ignoring Growing Criticism. *The New York Times*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/18/us/politics/china-virus.html?action=click&module=Spotlight&pgtype=Homepage>
96. Roy, E. (2020, February 27). New Zealand economy faces "serious impact" from coronavirus outbreak. *The Guradian*. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/feb/27/new-zealand-economy-faces-serious-impact-from-coronavirus-outbreak>
97. Russell, G., & Davidson, H. (2020, March 18). US media accuse China of "cold war" mentality after move to expel journalists. *The Guradian*. <https://www.theguardian.com/media/2020/mar/18/us-media-accuse-china-of-cold-war-mentality-after-move-to-expel-journalists>
98. Sajid, I. (2020, March). Pakistan confirms fifth coronavirus case. *Anadolu Agency*.
99. Shaukat, R. (2020, February). CPEC & COVID-19. *Pakistan Observer*.
100. Shepard, W. (2020). Coronavirus Outbreak Puts Belt And Road Projects On Hold, For Now. *Forbes*. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/wadeshepard/2020/02/29/coronavirus-outbreak-puts-belt-and-road-projects-on-hold-for-now/#3863effe6a2f>
101. Staff, L. S. (2020). *Coronavirus cases top 92,000: Live updates on COVID-19*. WHO. <https://www.livescience.com/coronavirus-updates.html>
102. Sweney, M. (2020, February 21). Coronavirus: air travel demand "will fall for first time in 11 years." *The Guradian*, 1. <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/feb/21/coronavirus-air-travel-demand-to-fall-for-first-time-in-11-years>
103. Tan, H. (2020, February). The coronavirus outbreak may have a two-quarter hit on China's economy, says Stephen Roach. *CNBC*, 1. <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/02/28/coronavirus-may-hit-chinas-economy-for-2-quarters-stephen-roach-says.html>
104. The Guradian. (2020, March 18). US tightens rules on Chinese state media over "propaganda" concerns. *The Guradian*. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/feb/18/us-chinese-media-propaganda-state-department>
105. Thomas, Zoe. (2020, February 13). WHO says fake coronavirus claims causing "infodemic." *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-51497800>

106. Thomas, Zu. (2020, February 2). What are social networking websites doing to prevent the spread of the disease? *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/science-51349724>
107. Times, A. (2020, March 18). Kuwait Commerce Ministry Penalise dealers' violation Anti-Coronavirus Regulations. *Arab Times*. <https://www.arabtimesonline.com/news/kuwait-commerce-ministry-penalizes-dealers-violating-anti-coronavirus-regulations/>
108. Times, G. (2020a, January 22). Strong exports. *Global Times*. <https://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1177735.shtml>
109. Times, G. (2020b, February 18). China's opening-up agenda won't be derailed by epidemic. *Global Times*. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1180024.shtml>
110. Times, G. (2020c, February 23). Japanese TV report sparks speculations in China that COVID-19 may have originated in US. *Peoples Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0223/c90000-9661026.html>
111. Times, G. (2020d, March 18). Pakistani president's timely visit to China solidifies longstanding friendship. *Global Times*. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1183029.shtml>
112. Times, N. (2020, March 17). China's Ill-Timed Attack on the Free Press. *The New York Times*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/17/opinion/china-journalists-coronavirus.html>
113. Topham, G. (2020, March 2). Airline industry braced for major threat from coronavirus turmoil. *The Guardian*. <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/mar/02/airline-industry-braced-for-major-threat-from-coronavirus-turmoil>
114. TUCKER, P. (2020). *Disinformation about the coronavirus is spreading as quickly as the virus, thanks to the usual players*. Defense One. <https://www.defenseone.com/technology/2020/03/iran-and-russian-media-push-bioweapon-conspiracies-amid-covid19-outbreak/163669/>
115. *UN releases US\$15 million to help vulnerable countries battle the spread of the coronavirus*. (2020). <https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/01-03-2020-un-releases-us-15-million-to-help-vulnerable-countries-battle-the-spread-of-the-coronavirus>
116. Walker, A. (2020, March 12). Eurozone bank tries to ease coronavirus crisis. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-51857792>
117. Wang, B., & Chu, D. (2020, February 21). Pakistani officials confident about overcoming impact of COVID-19 through on cooperation. *Global Times*. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1180321.shtml>
118. WANG, C. (2020). Balancing economy and health: But, if SARS is an indicator, Coronavirus (Covid-19) will have little effect of Chinese BRI investment and trade. <https://green-bri.org/if-sars-is-an-indicator-coronavirus-covid-19-will-have-little-effect-of-chinese-bri-investment-and-trade>
119. Wetsman, N. (2020, February 20). CORONAVIRUS-CONTAMINATED CRUISE SHIPS MIRROR THE GLOBAL CRISIS. *THE VERGE*. <https://www.theverge.com/2020/2/20/21145315/coronavirus-cruise-ship-outbreak-diamond-princess-policy-impact>
120. WHO. (2019a). *Air pollution and health*. <http://www9.who.int/airpollution/en/>
121. WHO. (2019b). *Tuberculosis*. <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/tuberculosis>
122. WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19. (2020). *WHO Director-General's Opening Remarks at the Media Briefing on COVID-19*, 1. <https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---5-march-2020>
123. William, J. (2020, February 12). There's no doubt China will bounce back from epidemic's impact. *Global Times*. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1179315.shtml>
124. Williams, S. (2020, January 25). How will the hospital be built in six days to deal with the Corona virus? *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/urdu/regional-51249622>
125. Wong, T. (2020, March 1). Sinophobia: How a virus reveals the many ways China is feared. *BBC News*, 1. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-51456056>
126. Woodhouse, A., Badkar, M., Rovnick, N., Provan, S., McCormick, M., Wells, P., & Rocco, M. (2020). Coronavirus: ECB ready to take 'targeted' action to address economic impact of outbreak – as it happened. *Financial Times*, 1. <https://www.ft.com/content/60f9e2ec-dd39-31cc-86d9-1adaa4dde1f8>
127. Wu, X., Xu, X., & Wang, X. (2020). *6 lessons from China's Zhejiang Province and Hangzhou on how countries can prevent and rebound from an epidemic like COVID-19*. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/03/coronavirus-covid-19-hangzhou-zhejiang-government-response/>
128. Xinhua. (2020a, February 14). Tariffs continue weighing heavily on U.S. economy. *People's Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0228/c90000-9663076.html>
129. Xinhua. (2020b, March 4). China to take more steps to stabilize economic, social development. *Shanghai Times*. <https://www.shine.cn/news/nation/2003043371/>

130. Xinhua. (2020c, March 7). China vows faster 5G development despite epidemic. *Shanghai News*. <https://www.shine.cn/news/nation/2003073681/>
131. Xinhua. (2020d, March 7). Potential treatments to defeat novel coronavirus. *Peoples Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0307/c90000-9665722.html>
132. Xinhua. (2020e, March 10). IMF chief economist calls for targeted policies to limit COVID-19 economic fallout. *People's Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0310/c90000-9666508.html>
133. Xinhua. (2020f, March 10). New York Fed to inject 150 bln USD daily into financial market over COVID-19. *People's Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0310/c90000-9666588.html>
134. Xinhua. (2020g, March 13). Tokyo stocks close substantially lower as virus fears propel global rout. *People's Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0313/c90000-9668069.html>
135. Xinhua. (2020h, March 17). Brazil's stock exchange plummets, triggers circuit breaker. *People's Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0317/c90000-9668931.html>
136. Xinhua. (2020i, March 17). Dow plunges nearly 3,000 points amid virus fears. *People's Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0317/c90000-9668921.html>
137. Xinhua. (2020j, March 17). Price hikes to moderate in China: official. *Shanghai Times*. <https://www.shine.cn/biz/economy/2003174470/>
138. Xinhua. (2020k, March 17). U.S. equities plunge in escalating coronavirus fears. *People's Daily*. <http://en.people.cn/n3/2020/0317/c90000-9668881.html>
139. Xinhua. (2020l, March 18). China's Hubei cleared of suspected COVID-19 cases. *Shanghai News*. <https://www.shine.cn/news/nation/2003184553/>
140. Xinhua. (2020m, March 18). China takes countermeasures against restrictive measures on Chinese media agencies in US. *Shanghai News*. <https://www.shine.cn/news/nation/2003184540/>
141. Xinhua. (2020n, March 18). Foreign-invested firms confident again in China. *Shanghai Times*. <https://www.shine.cn/biz/economy/2003184533/>
142. Xinhua. (2020o, March 18). Half a million medical masks from China arrive in Spain. *Shanghai News*. <https://www.shine.cn/news/nation/2003184549/>
143. Xinhua. (2020p, March 20). China Focus: Job-hunting moves online to ease employment pressure amid epidemic. *XinhuaNet*. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-03/20/c_138899164.htm
144. Xinhua. (2020q, March 20). Foreign political leaders speak highly of China's support for other countries in COVID-19 response. *XinhuaNet*. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-03/20/c_138899896.htm
145. Xinhua. (2020r, March 20). Xinhua Headlines: China returns solidarity with Europe in COVID-19 battle. *XinhuaNet*. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-03/20/c_138898996.htm
146. Yang, G. (2020, March 4). No serious impact of virus on BRI projects. *The Straits Times*. <https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/no-serious-impact-of-virus-on-bri-projects-china-daily-contributor>
147. Yu, V. (2020, February 7). "Hero who told the truth": Chinese rage over coronavirus death of whistleblower doctor. *The Guardian*, 1. <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2020/feb/07/coronavirus-chinese-rage-death-whistleblower-doctor-li-wenliang>
148. Zhang, J. (2020, March 12). Virus will not hit BRI cooperation. *Global Times*. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1182439.shtml>
149. Zheng, G. (2020, March 10). Obsession over COVID-19's origin misses the full picture. *Global Times*. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1182173.shtml>
150. Zheng, S., & Mai, J. (2020, March 13). Coronavirus conspiracy theories: US and Chinese politicians rush in where experts fear to tread. *South China Morning Post*. <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/society/article/3075177/coronavirus-conspiracy-theories-us-and-chinese-politicians-rush>
151. Zhou, Q. (2020, February 5). CPEC won't be affected by coronavirus. *Global Times*. <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1178648.shtml>